And there came a day, a day unlike any other, when Earth's Mightiest Heroes found themselves united against a common threat! On that day, the Avengers were born, to fight the foes no single super hero could withstand!

THE MIGHTY AVENGERS

The shape-shifting alien race known as the Skrulls has begun its invasion of Earth.

First they deployed a well planned secret invasion using their shape-shifting ability to seed mistrust among the Avengers and other heroes around the world.

Now they have struck fast and hard, by coaxing both the sanctioned and underground Avengers to the far away Savage Land to be hunted by Skrulls posing as their counterparts and long lost loved ones from an earlier time. Meanwhile, Skrull agents posing as humans all over the world set the rest of the plan into action...

The first person discovered to be a Skrull was the mysterious assassin known as Elektra...

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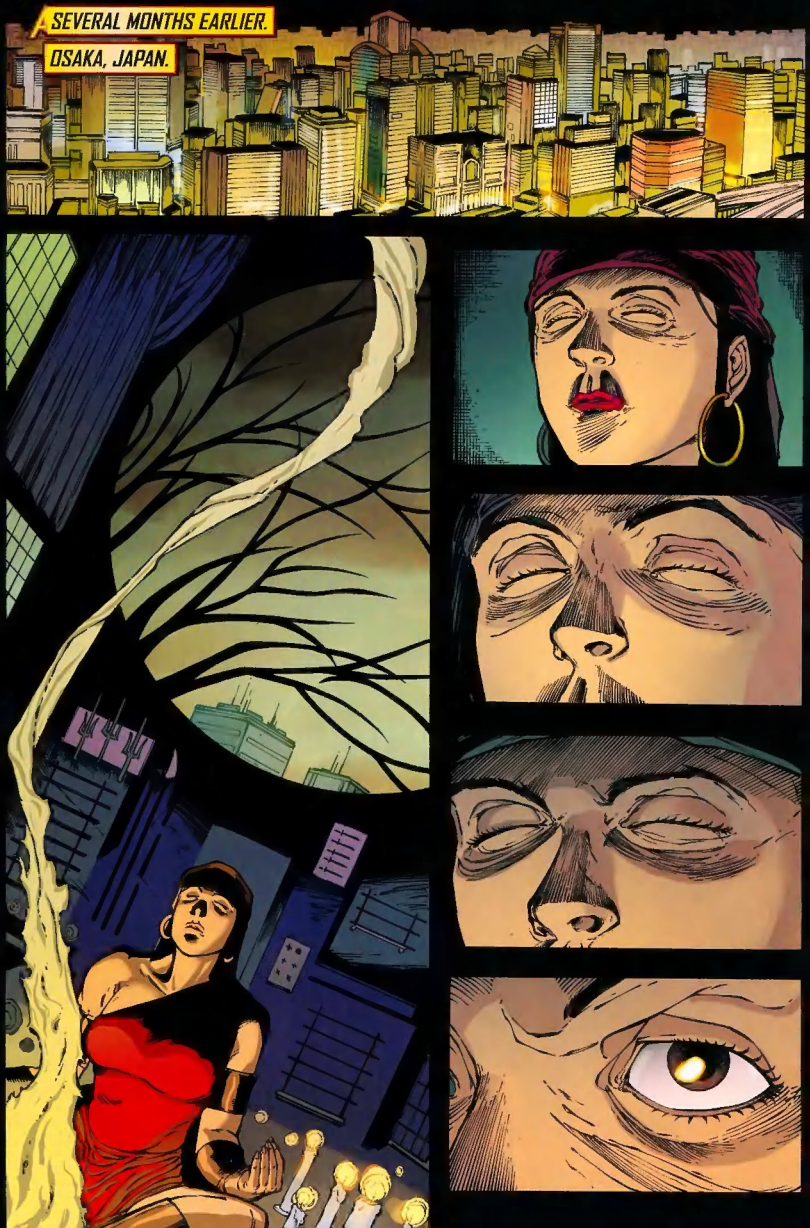
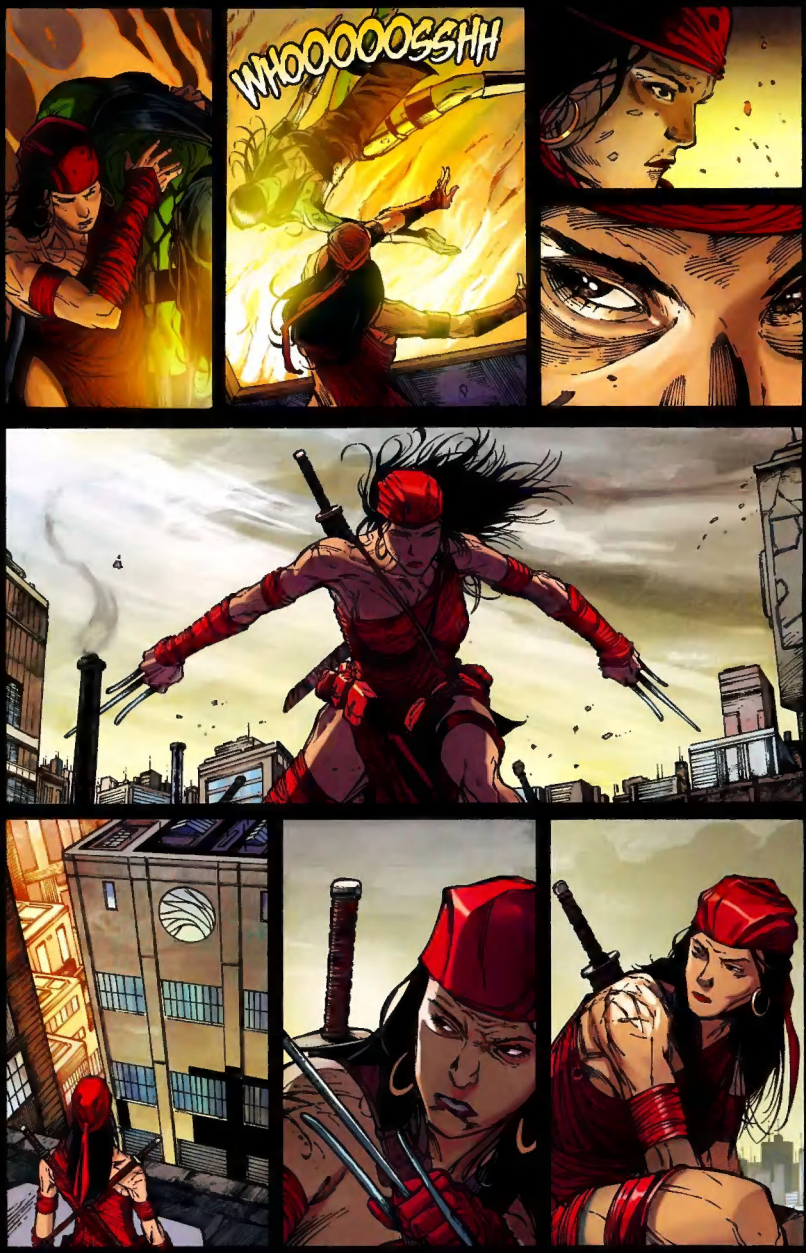
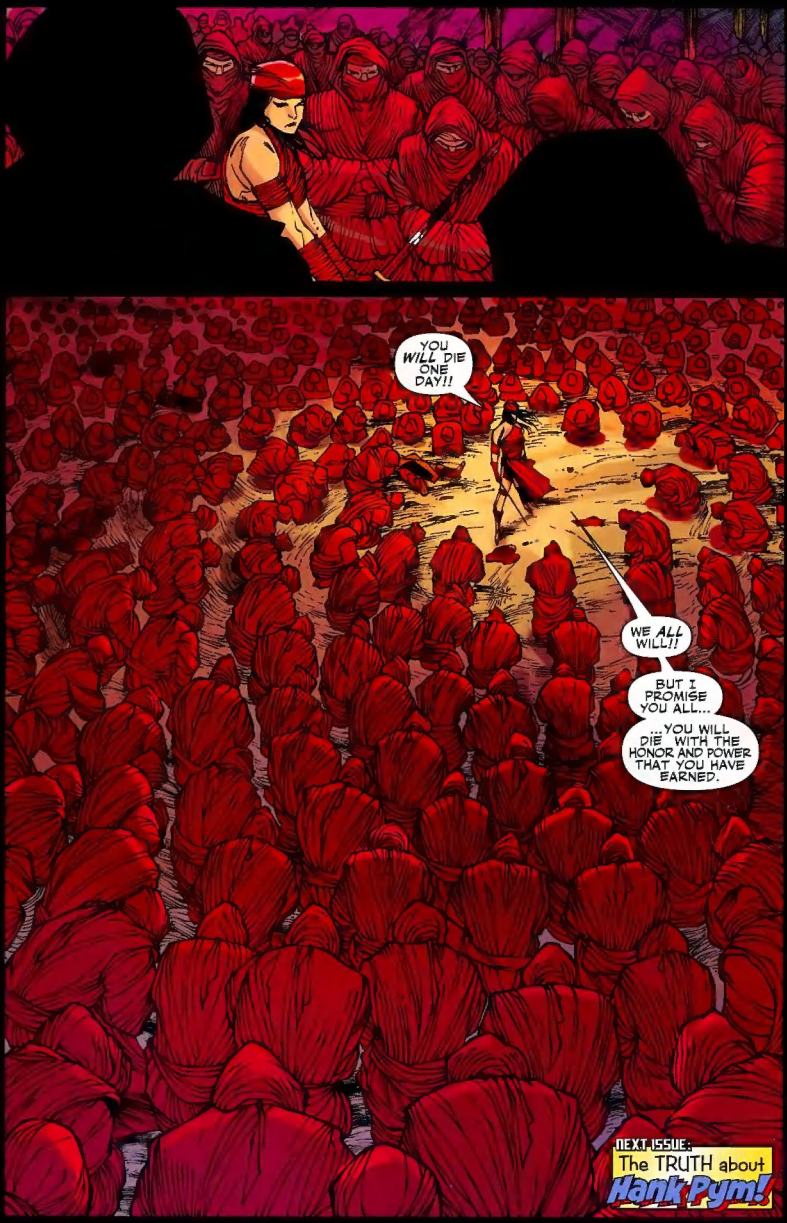

A SEVERAL MONTHS EARLIER.
OSAKA, JAPAN.


WHOOOOOSSHH

AGH!
FINISH HER FAST.
BAMF
HMMM.
BAMF

ONE WEEK LATER.
HAKKODA MOUNTAIN RANGE, SOUTH OF AOMORI CITY IN AOMORI PREFECTURE, JAPAN.
I'M HERE TO TELL YOU...WORD FROM AMERICA IS THAT THE MIGHTY AVENGERS HAVE DISBANDED IN FAILURE!
TONY STARK EMBARRASSED HIMSELF IN FRONT OF THE SO-CALLED UNITED NATIONS AND HIS EMPIRE IS CRUMBLING!
AND NOW HERE WE ARE...
HYDRA AND THE HAND. JOINED TOGETHER.
WE ARE THE FIST AND YOU ARE OUR SWORD. A BETTER TIME--
CHUCK
YOU SICKEN ME!
YOU LET HYDRA LEAD THE HAND?
YOU ARE THE GREATEST WARRIORS ON THE ENTIRE PLANET!
YOU'VE DEDICATED YOUR ENTIRE LIVES TO ANCIENT ARTS THAT FEW WILL EVER BE ALLOWED TO EVEN WHISPER OF.
AND NOW YOU'RE ERRAND BOYS FOR TERRORISTS?!
KILL YOURSELVES IN SHAME IF THIS IS WHAT YOU'VE COME TO!
KILL HER.

KILL ME! KILL ME AGAIN!
BUT YOU'LL ONLY BE KILLING YOURSELVES!
I AM ONE OF YOU!
YOUR BLOOD RUNS IN MY VEINS!
I HAVE BEEN BROUGHT BACK FROM THE DEAD BY YOU. MY SOUL IS YOURS.
I'VE TRAVELLED THE WORLD TO GET AWAY FROM YOU.
BUT I KNOW NOW THAT I WAS ONLY PUNISHING MYSELF.
I AM YOU. I AM HAND. BUT I WILL NOT STAND AND WATCH YOU GREAT WARRIORS FALL THIS LOW.
YOU SHOULDN'T BE FOLLOWING. YOU SHOULD BE LEADING!!
IN FEUDAL TIMES THIS ENTIRE CONTINENT WAS YOURS!
AND NOW YOU HIDE HERE? BOWING BEFORE HYDRA?
IF THIS IS THE BEST YOU ARE, THEN YES, KILL ME, BECAUSE I DON'T WANT TO LIVE IN A WORLD FULL OF SUCH--
I ACCEPT YOUR CHALLENGE, ELEKTRA!
YOU WANT THE HAND, YOU TAKE IT FROM ME!!
CLANG


YOU WILL DIE ONE DAY!!
WE ALL WILL!!
BUT I PROMISE YOU ALL...
...YOU WILL DIE WITH THE HONOR AND POWER THAT YOU HAVE EARNED.
NEXT ISSUE:
The TRUTH about Hank Pym!